

### Amendments to the Claims

Please cancel Claims 2, 3, 5, 6 and 11-23 without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter recited therein.

Please amend Claims 1, 4 and 7-10 to read as follows.

1. (Currently amended) An ink-jet recording apparatus comprising:  
a carriage for serially moving a recording head for ejecting ink drops;  
~~position detecting means for detecting the position of the carriage in the~~  
~~serial direction~~ a guide rail for guiding serial movement of said carriage;  
~~changing means for adjusting the width of a gap between the recording head~~  
~~and a back surface of a recording medium located at a position opposing the recording head~~  
an adjusting lever for changing the width of a gap between the recording  
head and a platen, wherein said adjusting lever slides along said guide rail when said  
carriage is moving; and  
~~recognizing means for recognizing a state of the changing means based on~~  
~~information from the position detecting means~~ a linear sensor for detecting a position of  
said carriage in a serial direction,  
wherein a movable range of said carriage is changed by operation of said  
adjusting lever and the state of said adjusting lever is judged from the movable range,  
which is detected by said linear sensor.

Claims 2 and 3 (cancelled)

4. (Currently amended) An apparatus according to Claim 1, further comprising control means for changing ink-drop-ejection timing based on the ~~basis of a~~ state of ~~the changing means~~ said adjusting lever.

Claims 5 and 6 (cancelled)

7. (Currently amended) An apparatus according to Claim 5 1, wherein the movable range of the ~~serial movement is provided with~~ includes a fiducial reference position for use as ~~the~~ a positional reference of the said carriage, and a movable end of the said carriage is displaced ~~in the~~ toward a side opposite to the fiducial reference position by operating ~~the changing means~~ said adjusting lever.

8. (Currently amended) An apparatus according to Claim 5 1, wherein the movable range of the ~~serial movement is provided with~~ includes a fiducial reference position for use as ~~the~~ a positional reference of the said carriage, and a movable end of the said carriage is displaced ~~in the~~ toward a same side as the fiducial reference position by operating ~~the changing means~~ said adjusting lever.

9. (Currently amended) An apparatus according to Claim 5 1, wherein ~~the changing means comprises~~ further comprising a cover member being opened openable

in order to operate ~~the changing means~~ said adjusting lever and a cover sensor for detecting the opening of ~~the~~ said cover member, and wherein changes in the movable range of ~~the~~ serial movement of the said carriage are detected by ~~the position detecting means~~ said linear sensor when ~~the~~ said cover member is closed.

10. (Currently amended) An apparatus according to Claim 5 1, further comprising an electrical power supply for driving the recording apparatus, wherein changes in the movable range of ~~the serial movement of the~~ said carriage are detected by ~~the position detecting means~~ said linear sensor when the electrical power supply is turned on.

Claims 11-23 (cancelled)